

Patti Fritz
State Representative

District 26B
Rice and Steele Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: VICE-CHAIR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING FINANCE DIVISION
HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE DIVISION
LABOR AND CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION

July 27, 2011

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group
Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing regarding LightSquared's efforts to launch a nationwide broadband wireless network.

LightSquared's integrated satellite-terrestrial network will greatly increase access to wireless broadband and cell phone coverage for rural residents. The current lack of reliable cell phone coverage is a problem for first responders, EMS staff, law enforcement and others that protect and serve the public. The lack of wireless broadband hinders economic development and job creation in communities that need jobs.

As a wholesale provider, LightSquared will also allow smaller wireless providers to offer 4G-LTE service and enable many new competitors to enter the wireless market. Multiple wireless providers serving Minnesota have signed contracts with LightSquared and are just waiting for the FCC to approve its network to expand their service area. This competition will provide more choices for consumers while lowering prices.

I know that the GPS industry has raised concerns about LightSquared's signal. Please remember that the GPS industry is currently "squatting" on LightSquared's spectrum, even though it has had years to come into compliance with FCC directives on the bandwidth in which it must broadcast. I understand that LightSquared's proposal to launch operations only in the lower 10 MegaHertz of its licensed spectrum takes care of more than 99% of GPS receivers.



Page 2
July 27, 2011

Given the great financial sacrifice this concession has cost LightSquared, it seems only fair that the GPS industry do its part to fix the problem it has created.

Sincerely,



Patti Fritz
State Representative